

Bluffton High School

12 H.E. McCracken Circle
Bluffton, SC 29910

Grades 9-12 High School

Enrollment 1,246 Students

Principal Aretha Rhone-Bush

843-706-8800

Superintendent Dr. Phillip J. McDaniel, Interim
Superintendent

843-322-2300

Board Chair Dale Friedman

843-322-2356

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2006 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

ABSOLUTE RATING

N/AV

Absolute Ratings of High Schools with Students like Ours

Excellent

Good

Average

Below Average

Unsatisfactory

7

15

3

1

0

IMPROVEMENT RATING

N/AV

ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS

NO

This school met 14 out of 15 objectives. The objectives included performance and participation of students in various groups.

Definition: As required by the United States Department of Education, Adequate Yearly Progress specifies that the statewide target is met for All Students and for the following subgroups: Racial/Ethnic, Subsidized Meals, Disability, and Limited English Proficiency.

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

PERFORMANCE TRENDS OVER 4-YEAR PERIOD

Year	Absolute Rating	Improvement Rating	Adequate Yearly Progress
2003	N/A	N/A	N/A
2004	N/A	N/A	N/A
2005	N/A	N/A	I/S
2006	N/AV	N/AV	No

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Unsatisfactory – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal

HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (HSAP) EXAM PASSAGE RATE: SECOND YEAR STUDENTS

Percent	Our School			High Schools with Students Like Ours		
	2004	2005	2006	2004	2005	2006
Passed 2 subtests	N/A	64.0	73.8	N/A	N/A	77.6
Passed 1 subtest	N/A	19.7	12.7	N/A	N/A	11.4
Passed no subtests	N/A	16.2	13.6	N/A	N/A	11.8

HSAP PASSAGE RATE BY SPRING 2006

Percent	Our School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
	N/A	92.8%

ELIGIBILITY FOR LIFE SCHOLARSHIP

Percent of	Our School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Seniors eligible for LIFE Scholarships at four-year institutions*	12.1	19.2
Seniors who met the SAT/ACT requirement	12.1	21.0
Seniors who met the grade point average	43.5	54.9

*Using only the SAT/ACT and grade point average requirements

GRADUATION RATE

	Our School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Number of Students	253	335
Number of Diplomas	154	247
Rate	60.9%	75.5%

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample

END OF COURSE TESTS

Percent of students scoring 70 or above on:	Our School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	79.0	81.6
English 1	56.0	71.0
Biology 1/Applied Biology 2	50.8	68.7
Physical Science	41.5	54.1
All Subjects	56.4	69.9

PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS

	HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2006		Eligibility for LIFE Scholarship		Graduation Rate		
	n	%	n	%	n	%	Met State Objective
All Students	N/A	N/A	214	12.1	154	60.9	No
Gender							
Male	N/A	N/A	106	14.2	127	55.9	N/A
Female	N/A	N/A	108	10.2	126	65.9	N/A
Racial/Ethnic Group							
White	N/A	N/A	139	17.3	152	69.7	N/A
African American	N/A	N/A	45	2.2	66	48.5	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	3	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	26	3.8	30	50.0	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	0	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Racial/Ethnic Group							
Non disabled	N/A	N/A	200	13.0	253	60.9	N/A
Disabilities other than speech	N/A	N/A	14	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Migrant Status							
Migrant	N/A	N/A	0	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-migrant	N/A	N/A	214	12.1	253	60.9	N/A
English Proficiency							
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	19	5.3	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	195	12.8	253	60.9	N/A
Socio-Economic Status							
Subsidized meals	N/A	N/A	67	46.3	67	46.3	N/A
Full-pay meals	N/A	N/A	163	15.3	186	66.1	N/A

n = number of students on which percentage is calculated

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample

HSAP PERFORMANCE BY GROUP

	<i>Enrollment 1st Day of Testing</i>	<i>% Tested</i>	<i>% Below Basic</i>	<i>% Basic</i>	<i>% Proficient</i>	<i>% Advanced</i>	<i>% Proficient and Advanced (adj.)</i>	<i>Performance Objective Met</i>	<i>Participation Objective Met</i>
English/Language Arts – State Performance Objective = 52.3%									
All Students	325	100.0	18.7	29.2	33.1	19.0	61.0	Yes	Yes
Gender									
Male	171	100.0	20.6	30.0	30.0	19.4	55.6	N/A	N/A
Female	154	100.0	16.6	28.3	36.6	18.6	66.9	N/A	N/A
Racial/Ethnic Group									
White	210	100.0	8.2	29.6	38.8	23.5	74.5	Yes	Yes
African American	60	100.0	38.6	26.3	29.8	5.3	36.8	I/S	Yes
Asian/Pacific Islander	5	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	48	100.0	35.6	35.6	13.3	15.6	33.3	I/S	Yes
American Indian/Alaskan	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Disability Status									
Not Disabled	290	100.0	12.5	29.9	36.2	21.4	67.2	N/A	N/A
Disabled	35	100.0	67.6	23.5	8.8	N/A	11.8	I/S	I/S
Migrant Status									
Migrant	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Migrant	325	100.0	18.7	29.2	33.1	19.0	61.0	N/A	N/A
English Proficiency									
Limited English Proficient	33	100.0	48.4	38.7	9.7	3.2	19.4	I/S	I/S
Non-Limited English Proficient	292	100.0	15.3	28.1	35.8	20.8	65.7	N/A	N/A
Socio-Economic Status									
Subsidized meals	102	100.0	32.3	29.2	29.2	9.4	43.8	I/S	Yes
Full-pay meals	223	100.0	12.4	29.2	34.9	23.4	68.9	N/A	N/A
Mathematics – State Performance Objective = 50.0%									
All Students	325	100.0	22.3	32.5	27.9	17.4	58.0	Yes	Yes
Gender									
Male	171	100.0	25.0	30.6	28.8	15.6	59.4	N/A	N/A
Female	154	100.0	19.3	34.5	26.9	19.3	56.6	N/A	N/A
Racial/Ethnic Group									
White	210	100.0	13.3	30.1	34.2	22.4	70.4	Yes	Yes
African American	60	100.0	52.6	31.6	14.0	1.8	26.3	I/S	Yes
Asian/Pacific Islander	5	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	48	100.0	24.4	46.7	20.0	8.9	42.2	I/S	Yes
American Indian/Alaskan	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Disability Status									
Not Disabled	290	100.0	15.1	35.1	30.3	19.6	63.5	N/A	N/A
Disabled	35	100.0	79.4	11.8	8.8	N/A	14.7	I/S	I/S
Migrant Status									
Migrant	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Migrant	325	100.0	22.3	32.5	27.9	17.4	58.0	N/A	N/A
English Proficiency									
Limited English Proficient	33	100.0	29.0	48.4	16.1	6.5	32.3	I/S	I/S
Non-Limited English Proficient	292	100.0	21.5	30.7	29.2	18.6	60.9	N/A	N/A
Socio-Economic Status									
Subsidized meals	102	100.0	34.4	35.4	24.0	6.3	41.7	I/S	Yes
Full-pay meals	223	100.0	16.7	31.1	29.7	22.5	65.6	N/A	N/A

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable **N/AV** Not Available **N/C** Not Collected **N/R** Not Reported **I/S** Insufficient Sample

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	High Schools with Students Like Ours	Median High School
Students (n= 1,246)				
Retention rate	9.8%	Up from 7.4%	6.6%	7.0%
Attendance rate	96.4%	Down from 97.2%	96.2%	95.5%
Eligible for gifted and talented	17.3%	Up from 3.4%	10.5%	7.9%
With disabilities other than speech	9.7%	Down from 10.7%	10.8%	12.3%
Older than usual for grade	11.4%	No change	6.7%	9.5%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	2.0%	Down from 6.4%	1.2%	1.2%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	19.6%	Down from 23.7%	17.2%	11.2%
Successful on AP/IB exams	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship*	12.2%		17.0%	10.2%
Annual dropout rate	0.7%	N/A	2.3%	2.8%
Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations	0.7%	Down from 1.4%	0.0%	3.5%
Enrollment in career/technology center courses	727	Up from 683	588	448
Students participating in worked-based experiences	29.7%	Up from 0.0%	24.9%	24.2%
Career/technology students mastering core competencies	75.6%	Up from 73.7%	81.1%	80.0%
Career/technology completers placed	N/A	N/A	100.0%	99.1%

* Using only SAT/ACT and Grade Point Average requirements.

Teachers (n= 70)

Teachers with advanced degrees	45.7%	Up from 42.4%	59.2%	55.5%
Continuing contract teachers	N/AV		N/AV	N/AV
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	13.4%	N/A	7.8%	9.6%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	10.9%	Down from 23.5%	6.0%	9.9%
Teachers returning from previous year	N/A	N/A	89.0%	86.3%
Teacher attendance rate	95.1%	Down from 96.0%	95.7%	95.3%
Average teacher salary	\$43,127	Up 7.1%	\$43,729	\$42,943
Prof. development days/teacher	11.4 days	Down from 22.2 days	11.3 days	11.2 days

School

Principal's years at school	3.0	Up from 2.0	4.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	30.9 to 1	Down from 31.0 to 1	27.8 to 1	25.7 to 1
Prime instructional time	89.4%	Down from 91.4%	90.4%	89.3%
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$6,205	N/A	\$6,221	\$6,792
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	54.1%	N/A	56.5%	55.3%
Percent of expenditures for instruction*	59.6%		61.0%	61.1%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No change	Excellent	Excellent
Parents attending conferences	97.8%	Up from 93.9%	94.8%	92.8%
SACS accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes	Yes
Character development	Good	No change	Good	Good

* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

	Our District	State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	9.6%	6.2%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	12.3%	10.2%
	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers in this school	0.0%	No
Student attendance in this school *or greater than last year	94.0%*	Yes

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Bluffton High School provides opportunities for students interested in science and/or technology through four interdisciplinary small learning communities in Business and Biotechnology, Information Technology, Interdisciplinary Studies and Education, and Visual and Performing Arts. Emphasis is placed on the integration of academic and career preparation while incorporating the latest technologies, resulting in students from across South Carolina taking courses at Bluffton High School through our Virtual Learning Program. Bluffton High School offers a broad and challenging curriculum that meets the needs of a diverse population. Learning disabled students and English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) students are served by specially adapted instructional programs. Bluffton High School realizes that in order to educate students in the 21st Century, public schools will need to make drastic changes in their approach to learning. Thus, we have established the Fresh Start Credit Recovery Program, which allows at-risk students to work and earn Carnegie credits towards the completion of their high school diplomas using flexible scheduling. This approach has proven to be a successful model for students who would have otherwise dropped out of school.

Students are provided the appropriate preparation they need to enter the workforce, military service, or college with approximately 76% continuing their educations in postsecondary institutions. Advanced placement courses are available in all areas of upper-level mathematics, science, social studies, art and English courses. Students can select from honors courses in all academic areas, three foreign languages, internship opportunities and on-site workforce development training. During the 2005-2006 school year, Bluffton High School administered 113 Advanced Placement (AP) exams to 90 students. In addition, 22 students received Associate Degrees while completing Carnegie unit requirements for graduation. Thirty-seven percent of the 2006 graduating class received scholarships totaling \$1,937,152.00.

There is a high level of participation by students and faculty in all aspects of the school program. Faculty and staff members, with the support of parents, community, and corporate partnerships, provide a learning environment in which all students can participate and achieve success in academic endeavors, sports and extracurricular activities. Through these partnerships, Bluffton High School has obtained over four million dollars for the professional development of teachers, academic enrichment, and athletics.

Other accomplishments include:

Twenty-six students received Microsoft MOUS certification.

One student received the honor of being named a National Merit Finalist.

Twelve students were named Palmetto Fellow Scholarship Recipients and sixty-four students were LIFE Scholarship qualifiers.

Bluffton High School's cross country team placed first in the AAA Division State Championship while the girls volley ball team placed second. In addition, the athletic program won seven AAA Region VIII titles in wrestling, track, softball, baseball, volleyball, golf and soccer.

Aretha Rhone-Bush, Principal
Sharon Brown, SIC President

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	64	0	0
Percent satisfied with learning environment	85.7%	N/R	N/R
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	92.2%	N/R	N/R
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	81.3%	N/R	N/R

*Only eleventh grade students and their parents were included. For schools without grade 11, only the highest grade was included.